

**Initial Study/Negative Declaration for the
Amendments to Bay Area Air Quality
Management District Regulation 8, Rule 28**

Prepared for:

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Chapter 1

Introduction

Purpose of this Document

This Initial Study/Negative Declaration (IS/ND) assesses the environmental impacts of the proposed adoption of amendments to Regulation 8, Rule 28, by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD or District) as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and in compliance with the state CEQA Guidelines (Title 14 California Code of Regulations §1400 et seq.). An IS/ND serves as an informational document to be used in the decision-making process for a public agency that intends to carry out a project; it does not recommend approval or denial of the project analyzed in the document. The BAAQMD is the lead agency under CEQA and must consider the impacts of the proposed rule amendments when determining whether to adopt them. The BAAQMD has prepared this IS/ND because no significant adverse impacts would result from the proposed rule amendments.

Scope of this Document

This document evaluates the potential impacts of the proposed amendments on the following resource areas:

- aesthetics,
- agricultural resources,
- air quality,
- biological resources,
- cultural resources,
- geology and soils,
- hazards and hazardous materials
- hydrology and water quality,
- land use planning,
- mineral resources,
- noise,

- population and housing,
- public services,
- recreation,
- transportation and traffic, and
- utilities and service systems.

Impact Terminology

The following terminology is used in this IS/ND to describe the levels of significance of impacts that would result from the proposed rule amendments:

- An impact is considered *beneficial* when the analysis concludes that the project would have a positive effect on a particular resource.
- A conclusion of *no impact* is appropriate when the analysis concludes that there would be no impact on a particular resource from the proposed project.
- An impact is considered *less than significant* if the analysis concludes that an impact on a particular resource topic would not be significant (i.e., would not exceed certain criteria or guidelines established by BAAQMD). Impacts are frequently considered less than significant when the changes are minor relative to the size of the available resource base or would not change an existing resource.
- An impact is considered *less than significant with mitigation incorporated* if the analysis concludes that an impact on a particular resource topic would be significant (i.e., would exceed certain criteria or guidelines established by BAAQMD), but would be reduced to a less than significant level through the implementation of mitigation measures.

Organization of This Document

The content and format of this document, described below, are designed to meet the requirements of CEQA.

- Chapter 1, “Introduction,” identifies the purpose, scope, and terminology of the document.
- Chapter 2, “Description of the Proposed Rule,” provides background information of Regulation 8, Rule 28, describes the proposed rule amendments, and describes the area and facilities that would be affected by the amendments.

- Chapter 3, “Environmental Checklist,” presents the checklist responses for each resource topic. This chapter includes a brief setting description for each resource area and identifies the impact of the proposed rule amendments on the resources topics listed in the checklist.
- Chapter 4, “References Cited,” identifies all printed references and personal communications cited in this report.

Chapter 2

Description of the Proposed Rule

Background

Pressure relief devices are a means to safely relieve excessive pressures to protect process equipment, piping and other components to prevent the rupture of equipment or other safety hazards. PRDs are designed to vent, or “lift”, at a prescribed “set pressure” to relieve excess pressure before it can exceed safe operating and/or equipment design levels. In most new refinery construction, PRDs in VOC service relieve to a control system such as a safety flare or thermal oxidizer. However, many older installations still have PRDs that vent directly to the atmosphere, resulting in the emission of VOCs and/or other material when the PRDs lift or if the valve leaks at pressures below the set point. These PRDs are called “atmospheric” PRDs.

Bay Area 2001 Ozone Plan Further Study Measure FS-8 committed the Bay Area Air Quality Management District to examining whether there is the potential for reducing emissions of ozone precursors from PRDs at petroleum refineries. PRDs are currently regulated under District Regulation 8, Rule 28: Episodic Releases from Pressure Relief Devices at Petroleum Refineries and Chemical Plants. For chemical plants, the rule requires only that facilities report any releases of over 10 pounds from a PRD to the District. For petroleum refineries, the rule requires release reporting and also requires certain substantive measures to reduce the likelihood of releases.

In accordance with FS-8, District staff conducted an audit of refinery PRDs and drafted a technical assessment document, both in 2002. District staff also reviewed release event reports submitted to the District by the affected facilities since the implementation of the 1997 amendments to Regulation 8, Rule 28, visited refineries and chemical plants, interviewed refinery staff, and discussed concerns with District staff to get a complete understanding of how the rule is being implemented. Based on these investigations, Staff are proposing the following amendments to Regulation 8, Rule 28:

1. Require facilities to ensure that they have the capability to detect and quantify all release events, including small releases of 10 pounds (the reporting threshold), and require facilities to demonstrate this capability to the District;
2. Require data recording and recordkeeping for venting and emissions verification;
3. Clearly define the equipment subject to the rule as the process unit to ensure that the original intent of the rule – to regulate all PRDs on an individual source (i.e., process unit) in the same manner – is clarified;
4. Require facilities to report to the District their analysis of the root causes and potential corrective actions after each PRD release event;

5. Make minor, non-substantive changes to the rule such as deleting obsolete references to “turnarounds,” moving requirements where appropriate, and clarifying various sections of the rule.

Objectives

The objectives of the proposed rule amendments are to help reduce emissions of ozone forming compounds (e.g., VOCs) by making Regulation 8, Rule 28 clearer and more easily enforceable.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) has set primary national ambient air quality standards for ozone and other air pollutants to define the levels considered safe for human health. CARB has also set a California ozone standard. The BAAQMD is seeking re-designation to attainment for the federal 1-hour standard for ozone and is a non-attainment area for the state 1-hour standard and federal 8-hour standard. Under the requirements of the federal Clean Air Act (CAA), non-attainment areas must prepare ozone attainment demonstrations showing how they will attain the federal standard. The most recent federal attainment demonstration is the Bay Area 2001 Ozone Attainment Plan. Similarly, the California Clean Air Act of 1988 requires areas that do not comply with the standard to prepare ozone attainment plans. The most recent state plan is the Bay Area 2000 Clean Air Plan.

Both federal and state plans include measures to reduce emissions of the pollutants that form ozone, i.e., nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds. These measures may be already adopted rules or proposal to adopt new regulations or amendments to existing regulations. As noted, Regulation 8, Rule 28 would improve enforcement of pressure relief devices.

Affected Area

The proposed rule amendments would apply to refineries and chemical plants under BAAQMD jurisdiction, which includes all of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Napa Counties and portions of southwestern Solano and southern Sonoma counties (approximately 5,600 square miles). The San Francisco Bay Area is characterized by a large, shallow basin surrounded by coastal mountain ranges tapering into sheltered inland valleys. The combined climatic and topographic factors result in increased potential for the accumulation of air pollutants in the inland valleys and reduced potential for buildup of air pollutants along the coast. The Basin is bounded by the Pacific Ocean to the west and includes complex terrain consisting of coastal mountain ranges, inland valleys, and bays.

The majority of the facilities affected by the proposed rule amendments are located within Contra Costa County and Solano County (see Figure 1) adjacent to the San Francisco Bay.

Chapter 3

Environmental Checklist**ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM**

- 1. Project Title:** Bay Area Air Quality Management District
(BAAQMD) Proposed Amendments to Regulation
8, Rule 28.
- 2. Lead Agency Name and Address:** Bay Area Air Quality Management District
939 Ellis Street
San Francisco, California 94109
- 3. Contact Person and Phone Number:** Victor Douglas, Planning and Research Division
415/749-4752 or vdouglas@baaqmd.gov
- 4. Project Location:** This rule amendment applies to the area within the
jurisdiction of the Bay Area Air Quality
Management District, which encompasses all of
Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San
Mateo, Santa Clara, and Napa Counties and
portions of southwestern Solano and southern
Sonoma Counties. The refineries affected by the
rule are located in Contra Costa and Solano
Counties.
- 5. Project Sponsor's Name and Address:** Bay Area Air Quality Management District
939 Ellis Street
San Francisco, California 94109
- 6. General Plan Designation:** The rule amendments apply to refineries and
chemical plants which are usually located in heavy
manufacturing or industrial areas.
- 7. Zoning** The rule amendments apply to refineries and
chemical plants that are usually located in heavy
manufacturing or industrial areas.
- 8. Description of Project** See "Background" in Chapter 2.
- 9. Surrounding Land Uses and Setting** See "Affected Area" in Chapter 2.
- 10. Other Public Agencies Whose Approval
Is Required** None

Environmental Factors Potentially Affected:

The environmental factors checked below would potentially be affected by this Project (i.e., the project would involve one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact"), as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Geology/Soils |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology/Water Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use/Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise | <input type="checkbox"/> Population/Housing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation/Traffic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities/Service Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance | |

Determination:

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- ☒ I find the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and that a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- ☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be significant effects in this case because revisions to the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- ☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- ☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have an impact on the environment that is "potentially significant" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" but at least one effect (1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards and (2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- ☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Signature

Date

Printed Name

For

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than- Significant Impact	No Impact
I. AESTHETICS.				
Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings along a scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect daytime or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The BAAQMD covers all of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Napa Counties and portions of southwestern Solano and southern Sonoma Counties. The area of coverage is vast (about 5,600 square miles), so that land uses vary greatly and include commercial, industrial, residential, agricultural, and open space uses.

The refineries and chemical plants affected by the proposed rule amendments are generally located in industrial areas, with the majority in industrial portions of Contra Costa and Solano Counties. Scenic highways or corridors are generally not located in the vicinity of industrial areas.

Regulatory Background

Visual resources are generally protected by the City and/or County General Plans through land use and zoning requirements.

Discussion of Impacts

I a-d: The proposed amendments to Regulation 8, Rule 28 would enhance existing requirements for pressure relief devices (PRDs) at existing petroleum refineries and chemical plants in the Bay Area. PRDs are small devices within refinery or plant units and not visible to areas outside of

the facilities. The proposed amendments are not expected to require new structures that would be visible to areas outside of the refinery or plant.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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II. AGRICULTURE RESOURCES.

In determining whether impacts on agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation. Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or conflict with a Williamson Act contract? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Involve other changes in the existing environment that, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Setting

The BAAQMD covers all of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Napa Counties and portions of southwestern Solano and southern Sonoma Counties. The area of coverage is vast (about 5,600 square miles) so that land uses vary greatly and include commercial, industrial, residential, agricultural, and open space uses. Some of these agricultural lands are under Williamson Act contracts.

The refineries and chemical plants affected by the proposed rule amendments are generally located in heavy industrial areas, with the majority in industrial portions of Contra Costa and Solano Counties. Agricultural resources are generally not located in the vicinity of heavy industrial areas.

Regulatory Background

Agricultural resources are generally protected by the City and/or County General Plans, Community Plans through land use and zoning requirements, as well as any applicable specific plans, ordinances, local coastal plans, and redevelopment plans.

Discussion of Impacts

II a-c: The proposed amendments to Regulation 8, Rule 28 would enhance existing requirements for PRDs at existing petroleum refineries and chemical plants in the Bay Area. The amendments would not require construction or any other activities with impacts outside of the boundaries of existing industrial facilities. The refineries and chemical plants are located within heavy industrial areas. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts on agricultural resources are expected.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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III. AIR QUALITY

When available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:

a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is a nonattainment area for an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions that exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Diminish an existing air quality rule or future compliance requirement resulting in a significant increase in air pollutant(s)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting

Meteorological Conditions

The summer climate of the West Coast is dominated by a semipermanent high centered over the northeastern Pacific Ocean. Because this high pressure cell is quite persistent, storms rarely affect the California coast during the summer. Thus the conditions that persist along the coast of California during summer are a northwest air flow and negligible precipitation. A thermal low pressure area from the Sonoran-Mojave Desert also causes air to flow onshore over the San Francisco Bay Area much of the summer.

In winter, the Pacific High weakens and shifts southward, upwelling ceases, and winter storms become frequent. Almost all of the Bay Area's annual precipitation takes place in the November through April period. During the winter rainy periods, inversions are weak or nonexistent, winds are often moderate and air pollution potential is low. During winter periods when the Pacific high becomes dominant, inversions become strong and often are surface based; winds are light and pollution potential is high. These periods are characterized by winds that flow out of the Central Valley into the Bay Area and often include tule fog.

Topography

The San Francisco Bay Area is characterized by complex terrain consisting of coastal mountain ranges, inland valleys and bays. Elevations of 1,500 feet are common in the higher terrain of this area. Normal wind flow over the area becomes distorted in the lower elevations, especially when the wind velocity is not strong. This distortion is reduced when stronger winds and unstable air masses move over the areas. The distortion is greatest when low level inversions are present with the surface air, beneath the inversion, flowing independently of the air above the inversion.

Winds

In summer, the northwest winds to the west of the Pacific coastline are drawn into the interior through the Golden Gate and over the lower portions of the San Francisco Peninsula. Immediately to the south of Mount Tamalpais, the northwesterly winds accelerate considerably and come more nearly from the west as they stream through the Golden Gate. This channeling of the flow through the Golden Gate produces a jet that sweeps eastward but widens downstream producing southwest winds at Berkeley and northwest winds at San Jose; a branch curves eastward through the Carquinez Straits and into the Central Valley. Wind speeds may be locally strong in regions where air is channeled through a narrow opening such as the Carquinez Strait, the Golden Gate, or San Bruno Gap.

In winter, the Bay Area experiences periods of storminess and moderate-to-strong winds and periods of stagnation with very light winds. Winter stagnation episodes are characterized by outflow from the Central Valley, nighttime drainage flows in coastal valleys, weak onshore flows in the afternoon and otherwise light and variable winds.

Temperature

In summer, the distribution of temperature near the surface over the Bay Area is determined in large part by the effect of the differential heating between land and water surfaces. This process produces a large-scale gradient between the coast and the Central Valley as well as small-scale local gradients along the shorelines of the ocean and bays. The winter mean temperature high and lows reverse the summer relationship in that daytime variations are small while mean minimum nighttime temperatures show large differences and strong gradients. The moderating effect of the ocean influences warmer minimums along the coast and penetrating the Bay. The coldest temperatures are in the sheltered valleys, implying strong radiation inversions and very limited vertical diffusion.

Inversions

A primary factor in air quality is the mixing depth, i.e., the vertical dimension available for dilution of contaminant sources near the ground. Over the Bay Area the frequent occurrence of temperature inversions limits this mixing depth and consequently limits the availability of air for dilution. A temperature inversion may be described as a layer or layers of warmer air over cooler air.

Precipitation

The San Francisco Bay Area climate is characterized by moderately wet winters and dry summers. Winter rains (December through March) account for about 75 percent of the average annual rainfall; about 90 percent of the annual total rainfall is received in November to April period; and between June and September, normal rainfall is typically less than 0.10 inches. Annual precipitation amounts show greater differences in short distances. Annual totals exceed 40 inches in the mountains and are less than 15 inches in the sheltered valleys.

Pollution Potential

The Bay Area is subject to a combination of physiographic and climatic factors which result in a low potential for pollutant buildups near the coast and a high potential in sheltered inland valleys. In summer, areas with high average maximum temperatures tend to be sheltered inland valleys with abundant sunshine and light winds. Areas with low average maximum temperatures are exposed to the prevailing ocean breeze and experience frequent fog or stratus. Locations with warm summer days have a higher pollution potential than the cooler locations along the coast and bays.

In winter, pollution potential is related to the nighttime minimum temperature. Low minimum temperatures are associated with strong radiation inversions in inland valleys that are protected from the moderating influences of the ocean and bays. Conversely, coastal locations experience higher average nighttime temperatures, weaker inversions, stronger breezes and consequently less air pollution potential.

Air Quality

Criteria Pollutants

It is the responsibility of the BAAQMD to ensure that state and federal ambient air quality standards are achieved and maintained in its geographical jurisdiction. Health-based air quality standards have been established by California and the federal government for the following criteria air pollutants: ozone, carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), particulate matter less than 10 microns (PM₁₀), sulfur dioxide (SO₂) and lead. These standards were established to protect sensitive receptors with a margin of safety from adverse health impacts due to exposure to air pollution. The California standards are more stringent than the federal standards and in the case of PM₁₀ and SO₂, far more stringent. California has also established standards for sulfate, visibility, hydrogen sulfide, and vinyl chloride.

The state and national ambient air quality standards for each of these pollutants and their effects on health are summarized in Table 3-1. The BAAQMD monitors levels of various criteria pollutants at 26 monitoring stations. The 2002 air quality data from the BAAQMD's monitoring stations are presented in Table 3-2.

Air quality conditions in the San Francisco Bay Area have improved since the Air District was created in 1955. Ambient concentrations of air pollutants and the number of days on which the region exceeds air quality standards have fallen dramatically (see Table 3-3). The Air District is in attainment of the State and federal ambient air quality standards for CO, nitrogen oxides (NO_x), and sulfur oxides (SO_x). The Air District is unclassified for the federal 24-hour PM₁₀ standard. Unclassified means that the monitoring data are incomplete and do not support a designation of attainment or non-attainment. However, the Air District does not comply with the State 24-hour PM₁₀ standard.

The 2004 air quality data from the BAAQMD monitoring stations are presented in Table 3-2. All monitoring stations were below the standard and federal ambient air quality standards for CO, NO₂, and SO₂. The federal 1-hour ozone standard was not exceeded in 2004. Based on the Bay Area ozone record for 2001-2003, the U.S. EPA has determined that the Bay Area has attained the federal 1-hour ozone standard. The federal 8-hour standard was not exceeded in the District in 2004. The Bay Area is designated as a non-attainment area for the California 1-hour ozone standard. The state 1-hour ozone standard was exceeded on 7 days in 2004 in the District, most frequently in the Eastern District (Livermore) (see Table 3-2).

All monitoring stations were in compliance with the federal PM₁₀ standards. The California PM₁₀ standards were exceeded on seven days in 2004, most frequently in San Jose. The Air District exceeded the federal PM_{2.5} standard on one day (at Concord) in 2004 (see Table 3-4).

TABLE 3-1
FEDERAL AND STATE AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS

AIR POLLUTANT	STATE STANDARD CONCENTRATION/ AVERAGING TIME	FEDERAL PRIMARY STANDARD CONCENTRATION/ AVERAGING TIME	MOST RELEVANT EFFECTS
Ozone	0.09 ppm, 1-hr. avg. > 0.070 ppm, 8-hr	0.12 ppm, 1-hr avg.> 0.08 ppm, 8-hr avg. >	(a) Short-term exposures: (1) Pulmonary function decrements and localized lung edema in humans and animals (2) Risk to public health implied by alterations in pulmonary morphology and host defense in animals; (b) Long-term exposures: Risk to public health implied by altered connective tissue metabolism and altered pulmonary morphology in animals after long-term exposures and pulmonary function decrements in chronically exposed humans; (c) Vegetation damage; (d) Property damage
Carbon Monoxide	9.0 ppm, 8-hr avg. > 20 ppm, 1-hr avg. >	9 ppm, 8-hr avg.> 35 ppm, 1-hr avg.>	(a) Aggravation of angina pectoris and other aspects of coronary heart disease; (b) Decreased exercise tolerance in persons with peripheral vascular disease and lung disease; (c) Impairment of central nervous system functions; (d) Possible increased risk to fetuses
Nitrogen Dioxide	0.25 ppm, 1-hr avg. >	0.053 ppm, ann. avg.>	(a) Potential to aggravate chronic respiratory disease and respiratory symptoms in sensitive groups; (b) Risk to public health implied by pulmonary and extra-pulmonary biochemical and cellular changes and pulmonary structural changes; (c) Contribution to atmospheric discoloration
Sulfur Dioxide	0.04 ppm, 24-hr avg.> 0.25 ppm, 1-hr. avg. >	0.03 ppm, ann. avg.> 0.14 ppm, 24-hr avg.>	(a) Bronchoconstriction accompanied by symptoms which may include wheezing, shortness of breath and chest tightness, during exercise or physical activity in persons with asthma
Suspended Particulate Matter (PM10)	20 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, annarithmic mean > 50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, 24-hr average>	50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, annual arithmetic mean > 65 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, 24-hr avg.>	(a) Excess deaths from short-term exposures and exacerbation of symptoms in sensitive patients with respiratory disease; (b) Excess seasonal declines in pulmonary function, especially in children
Suspended Particulate Matter (PM2.5)		15 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, annual arithmetic mean> 150 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, 24-hour average>	Decreased lung function from exposures and exacerbation of symptoms in sensitive patients with respiratory disease; elderly; children.
Sulfates	25 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, 24-hr avg. >=		(a) Decrease in ventilatory function; (b) Aggravation of asthmatic symptoms; (c) Aggravation of cardio-pulmonary disease; (d) Vegetation damage; (e) Degradation of visibility; (f) Property damage
Lead	1.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, 30-day avg. >=	1.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, calendar quarter>	(a) Increased body burden; (b) Impairment of blood formation and nerve conduction
Visibility-Reducing Particles	In sufficient amount to give an extinction coefficient >0.23 inverse kilometers (visual range to less than 10 miles) with relative humidity less than 70%, 8-hour average (10am – 6pm PST)		Nephelometry and AISI Tape Sampler; instrumental measurement on days when relative humidity is less than 70 percent

TABLE 3-2
BAY AREA AIR POLLUTION SUMMARY 2004

MONITORING STATIONS	Ozone							CARBON MONOXIDE			NITROGEN DIOXIDE			SULFUR DIOXIDE			PM10				PM2.5				
	Max 1-Hr	Nat Days	Cal Days	3-Yr Avg	Max 8-Hr	Nat Days	3-Yr Avg	Max 1-Hr	Max 8-Hr	Nat/Cal Days	Max 1-Hr	Ann Avg	Nat/Cal Days	Max 24-Hr	Ann Avg	Nat/Cal Days	Ann Avg	Max 24-Hr	Nat Day	Cal Days	Max 24-Hr	Nat Days	3-Yr Avg	Ann Avg	3-Yr Avg
NORTH COUNTIES	(pphm)							(ppm)			(pphm)			(ppb)			(µg/m ³)				(µg/m ³)			(µg/m ³)	
Napa	9	0	0	0.0	7	0	6.6	3.7	2.0	0	6	1.1	0	--	--	--	20.7	60	0	1	--	--	--	--	--
San Rafael	9	0	0	0.0	6	0	4.9	3.2	2.0	0	6	1.5	0	--	--	--	17.9	52	0	1	--	--	--	--	--
Santa Rosa	8	0	0	0.0	6	0	5.1	2.7	1.6	0	5	1.1	0	--	--	--	18.0	48	0	0	27	0	32	8.3	9
Vallejo	10	0	1	0.0	7	0	6.5	4.0	3.4	0	5	1.2	0	5	1.3	0	19.6	51	0	1	40	0	39	11.1	11
COAST & CENTRAL BAY																									
Oakland	8	0	0	0.0	6	0	4.0	3.5	2.6	0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Richmond	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	5	1.6	0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
San Francisco	9	0	0	0.0	6	0	4.7	2.9	2.2	0	6	1.7	0	8	1.4	0	22.5	52	0	1	46	0	41	9.9	11
San Pablo	11	0	1	0.0	7	0	5.2	3.2	1.8	0	6	1.3	0	5	1.6	0	21.2	64	0	1	--	--	--	--	--
EASTERN DISTRICT																									
Bethel Island	10	0	1	0.0	8	0	7.5	1.2	0.9	0	3	0.8	0	6	1.6	0	19.5	42	0	0	--	--	--	--	--
Concord	10	0	1	0.0	8	0	7.9	2.7	2.0	0	7	1.2	0	10	1.0	0	18.6	51	0	1	74	1	40*	10.7*	11*
Crockett	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	7	1.7	0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Fairfield	10	0	1	0.0	8	0	7.1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Livermore	11	0	5	1.0	8	0	8.3	3.5	1.8	0	6	1.4	0	--	--	--	20.0	49	0	0	41	0	37	10.3	11
Martinez	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	7	1.5	0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Pittsburg	9	0	0	0.0	8	0	7.3	4.1	1.9	0	5	1.1	0	7	2.0	0	21.7	64	0	1	--	--	--	--	--
SOUTH CENTRAL BAY																									
Fremont	9	0	0	0.0	7	0	6.4	3.0	1.7	0	6	1.5	0	--	--	--	18.6	49	0	0	40	0	32	9.4	10
Hayward	9	0	0	0.0	7	0	6.2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Redwood City	10	0	1	0.0	7	0	6.0	4.8	2.1	0	6	1.5	0	--	--	--	20.5	65	0	1	36	0	32	9.3	9
San Leandro	10	0	1	0.0	7	0	5.4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
SANTA CLARA VALLEY																									
Gilroy	9	0	0	0.0	8	0	7.7	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Los Gatos	9	0	0	0.0	8	0	7.8	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
San Jose Central*	9	0	0	*	7	0	*	4.4	3.0	0	7	1.9	0	--	--	--	23.1	58	0	4	52	0	*	11.6	*
San Jose East	9	0	0	0.0	7	0	6.0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
San Jose, Tully Road	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	26.0	65	0	3	45	0	35	10.4	10
San Martin	9	0	0	0.0	8	0	8.4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Sunnyvale	10	0	1	0.0	8	0	6.9	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Total Bay Area Days over Standard		0	7			0				0			0			0			0	7		1			

(ppm) = parts per million, (pphm) = parts per hundred million, (ppb) = parts per billion

*

TABLE 3-3
TEN-YEAR BAY AREA AIR QUALITY SUMMARY
Days over standards

YEAR	OZONE			CARBON MONOXIDE				NO _x	SULFUR DIOXIDE		PM10		PM2.5
	1-Hr		8-Hr	1-Hr		8-Hr		1-Hr	24-Hr		24-Hr*		24-Hr**
	Nat	Cal	Nat	Nat	Cal	Nat	Cal	Cal	Nat	Cal	Nat	Cal	Nat
1995	11	28	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	-
1996	8	34	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	-
1997	0	8	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	-
1998	8	29	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	-
1999	3	2	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	-
2000	3	12	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	1
2001	1	15	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	5
2002	2	16	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	5
2003	1	19	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0
2004	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	1

* PM10 is sampled every sixth day – actual days over standard can be estimated to be six times the numbers listed.

** 2000 is the first full year for which the Air District measured PM2.5 levels.

Toxic Air Pollutants

The BAAQMD also regulates toxic air contaminants (TACs). The BAAQMD maintains a network of monitoring stations to monitor certain TACs in ambient air. In addition, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) maintains several monitoring stations in the Bay Area as part of a statewide toxics monitoring effort. The mean ambient concentrations of monitored TACs are listed in Table 3-4 based on monitoring conducted during 2000 for the monitoring stations closest to the refineries. The Richmond station is located at 7th Street downwind from the ChevronTexaco refinery and the Richmond parkway. The Crockett station is located at the end of Kendall Avenue generally downwind of the ConocoPhillips refinery. There are two Concord stations.

TABLE 3-4
CONCENTRATIONS OF TOXIC AIR CONTAMINANTS
IN THE BAY AREA⁽¹⁾

CHEMICAL	MONITORING STATION (mean ppb)				
	Crockett	Concord (Treat Blvd)	Richmond	Bethel Island	Concord (Arnold)
Vinyl Chloride	<0.30	<0.30	<0.30	<0.30	<0.30
Methylene Chloride (DCM)	0.30	0.26	0.26	0.30	<0.50
Chloroform (CHCl ₃)	<0.30	<0.30	0.01	<0.30	<0.30
Ethylene Dichloride	<0.10	<0.10	<0.10	<0.10	<0.10
1,1,1-Trichloroethane (TCA)	0.12	0.06	0.06	0.05	0.20
Carbon Tetrachloride (CCl ₄)	0.11	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.10
Trichloroethylene (TCE)	<0.08	0.04	0.05	<0.08	<0.08
Benzene	0.20	0.54	0.41	0.26	0.43
Ethylene Dibromide	<0.02	<0.02	<0.02	<0.02	<0.02
Perchloroethylene	0.02	0.04	0.06	0.03	0.05
Toluene	0.35	2.32	1.92	0.49	0.94
MTBE	0.67	0.54	0.69	0.46	0.59

(1) BAAQMD, Toxic Air Contaminant, 2000 Annual Report, December 2001.

The concentrations of TACs at these monitoring stations are similar to concentrations of TACs in the rest of the Bay Area.

Regulatory Background

Criteria Pollutants

At the federal level, the Clean Air Act (CAA) Amendments of 1990 give the U.S. EPA additional authority to require states to reduce emissions of ozone precursors and PM₁₀ in non-attainment areas. The amendments set new attainment deadlines based on the severity of problems. At the state level, CARB has traditionally established state ambient air quality standards, maintained oversight authority in

air quality planning, developed programs for reducing emissions from motor vehicles, developed air emission inventories, collected air quality and meteorological data, and approved state implementation plans. At a local level, California's air districts, including the BAAQMD, are responsible for overseeing stationary source emissions, approving permits, maintaining emission inventories, maintaining air quality stations, overseeing agricultural burning permits, and reviewing air quality-related sections of environmental documents required by CEQA.

The BAAQMD regulates air contaminants from stationary sources. The BAAQMD is governed by a 22-member Board of Directors composed of publicly-elected officials apportioned according to the population of the represented counties. The BAAQMD has the authority to develop and enforce regulations for the control of air pollution within its jurisdiction. The BAAQMD is responsible for implementing emissions standards and other requirements of federal and state laws. It is also responsible for developing air quality planning documents required by both federal and state laws.

Toxic Air Contaminants

TACs are regulated in the District through federal, state, and local programs. At the federal level, TACs are regulated primarily under the authority of the CAA. Prior to the amendment of the CAA in 1990, source-specific National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAPs) were promulgated under Section 112 of the CAA for certain sources of radionuclides and Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs).

Title III of the 1990 CAA amendments requires U.S. EPA to promulgate NESHAPs on a specified schedule for certain categories of sources identified by U.S. EPA as emitting one or more of the 189 listed HAPs. Emission standards for major sources must require the maximum achievable control technology (MACT). MACT is defined as the maximum degree of emission reduction achievable considering cost and non-air quality health and environmental impacts and energy requirements. EPA has promulgated NESHAPs for many of the 189 listed HAPs, although not all have been completed yet.

Many of the sources of TACs that have been identified under the CAA are also subject to the California TAC regulatory programs. CARB developed three regulatory programs for the control of TACs. Each of the programs is discussed in the following subsections.

Control of TACs Under the TAC Identification and Control Program: California's TAC identification and control program, adopted in 1983 as Assembly Bill 1807 (AB 1807) (California Health and Safety Code §39662), is a two-step program in which substances are identified as TACs, and airborne toxic control measures (ATCMs) are adopted to control emissions from specific sources. Since adoption of the program, CARB has identified 18 TACs, and CARB adopted a regulation designating all 189 federal HAPs as TACs.

Control of TACs Under the Air Toxics "Hot Spots" Act: The Air Toxics Hot Spot Information and Assessment Act of 1987 (AB 2588) (California Health and Safety Code §39656) establishes a state-wide program to inventory and assess the risks from facilities that emit TACs and to notify the public about significant health risks associated with those emissions. Inventory reports must be updated every four years under current state law. The BAAQMD uses a maximum individual cancer risk of 10 in one

million, or an ambient concentration above a non-cancer reference exposure level, as the threshold for notification.

Senate Bill (SB) 1731, enacted in 1992 (California Health and Safety Code §44390 et seq.), amended AB 2588 to include a requirement for facilities with significant risks to prepare and implement a risk reduction plan which will reduce the risk below a defined significant risk level within specified time limits. At a minimum, such facilities must, as quickly as feasible, reduce cancer risk levels that exceed 100 per one million. The BAAQMD adopted risk reduction requirements for perchloroethylene dry cleaners to fulfill the requirements of SB 1731.

Discussion of Impacts

III a. The objective of the proposed rule amendments is to help make Regulation 8, Rule 28 clearer and more easily enforceable. The proposed amendments are part of the District's efforts to implement its local air quality plans. The proposed amendments will therefore not conflict with or obstruct implementation of an applicable air quality plan.

III b, c, d, and f. The proposed amendments will make the rule clearer and more enforceable, which will help further the rule's goal of reducing emissions from PRDs. The rule as it currently exists has been successful in reducing emissions. When the current rule was adopted in 1997, emissions from PRDs were found to be approximately 27 to 150 tons per year. Since the current rule has been in place, emissions have averaged 18 tons per year. Furthermore, since the rule's requirement to implement Prevention Measures took effect, emissions have averaged only 8.6 tons per year. The proposed amendments will ensure that facilities are monitoring their PRDs properly and are maintaining and reporting PRD emissions data so that District enforcement staff can ensure compliance with the rule. By enhancing the current rule in this way, the proposed amendments will help the rule achieve emissions reductions. U.S. EPA has estimated from time to time in various rulemakings that enhanced monitoring can result in a ten to twenty percent emissions reduction. Here, staff believes that the proposal to add an explicit monitoring requirement should more appropriately use a five percent emissions reduction factor, because many PRDs are already subject to some form of monitoring and it appears that most releases – and especially the larger ones – are being detected. Using the 18 tons-per-year average emissions figure from the period 1998-2005, a five percent reduction would result in emissions reductions of approximately 0.9 tons per year. Using the 8.6 tons-per-year average from the period after the Prevention Measures requirement came into effect, a five percent reduction would result in emissions reductions of 0.4 tons per year. Based on the above analysis, the proposed amendments to Regulation 8, Rule 28 are expected to result in reductions in emissions and, thus, provide air quality benefits. No significant adverse impacts to air quality are expected.

III e. The proposed amendments are expected to enhance the District's ability to enforce the rule. The rule amendments are not expected to generate any additional odors at refineries or chemical plants, and could actually reduce the potential for odor impacts by reducing emissions from PRDs.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES. Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal wetlands, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflicting with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted habitat conservation plan, natural community conservation plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The BAAQMD covers all of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Napa Counties and portions of southwestern Solano and southern Sonoma Counties. The area of coverage is vast (about 5,600 square miles) so that land uses vary greatly and include commercial, industrial, residential, agricultural, and open space uses. A wide variety of biological resources are located within the Bay Area.

The refineries and chemical plants covered by the proposed amendments are generally located industrial areas. The sites have been graded to develop the various industrial structures and are typically surrounded by other commercial and industrial facilities. Native vegetation, other than landscape vegetation, has been removed from operating portions of the industrial facilities to minimize fire hazards.

Regulatory Background

Biological resources are generally protected by the City and/or County General Plans through land use and zoning requirements which minimize or prohibit development in biologically sensitive areas. Biological resources are also protected by the California Department of Fish and Game, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service oversee the federal Endangered Species Act. Development permits may be required from one or both of these agencies if development would impact rare or endangered species. The California Department of Fish and Game administers the California Endangered Species Act which prohibits impacting endangered and threatened species. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. EPA regulate the discharge of dredge or fill material into waters of the United States, including wetlands.

Discussion of Impacts

IV a – f. No impacts on biological resources are anticipated from the proposed rule amendments. The PRDs and the equipment they serve are located within the confines of existing industrial facilities. The proposed rule amendments neither require, nor are likely to result in, activities, e.g., construction activities, that would affect sensitive biological resources. Activities related to the proposed rule amendment would be limited to the confines of the existing facilities. No significant construction activities are expected to be required within or outside of the confines of the existing facilities. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts on biological resources are expected.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
V. CULTURAL RESOURCES. Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside a formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The BAAQMD covers all of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Napa Counties and portions of southwestern Solano and southern Sonoma Counties. The area of coverage is vast (about 5,600 square miles) so that land uses vary greatly and include commercial, industrial, residential, agricultural and open space uses. Cultural resources are defined as buildings, sites, structures, or objects that might have historical architectural, archaeological, cultural, or scientific importance.

The refineries and chemical plants affected by the proposed rule amendments are located in industrial areas. The sites have been graded to develop the various refinery structures and are typically surrounded by other commercial and industrial facilities. Cultural resources are generally not located within the operating portions of the refineries.

Regulatory Background

The State CEQA Guidelines define a significant cultural resources as a “resource listed or eligible for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources” (Public Resources Code Section 5024.1). A project would have a significant impact if it would cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b)). A substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource would result from an action that would demolish or adversely alter the physical characteristics of the historical resource that convey its historical significance and that qualify the resource for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources or a local register or survey that meets the requirements of Public Resources Code Sections 50020.1(k) and 5024.1(g).

Discussion of Impacts

V a – d. No impacts on cultural resources are anticipated from the proposed rule amendments that would apply to existing refinery and chemical plant operations. The PRDs already exist and are located within the confines of existing refineries. The proposed rule amendments neither require nor are likely to result in activities that would affect sensitive cultural resources. No major construction activities are expected from the proposed rule amendments. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts on cultural resources are expected.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS.

Would the project:

a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• Strong seismic groundshaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- | | | | | | |
|----|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| c) | Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in onsite or offsite landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) | Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| e) | Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems in areas where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Setting

The BAAQMD covers all of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Napa Counties and portions of southwestern Solano and southern Sonoma Counties. The area of coverage is vast (about 5,600 square miles) so that land uses vary greatly and include commercial, industrial, residential, agricultural, and open space uses. The facilities affected by the proposed rule amendments are located in industrial areas.

The refineries and chemical plants are located in the natural region of California known as the Coast Ranges geomorphic province. The province is characterized by a series of northwest trending ridges and valleys controlled by tectonic folding and faulting, examples of which include the Suisun Bay, East Bay Hills, Briones Hills, Vaca Mountains, Napa Valley, and Diablo Ranges. Regional basement rocks consist of the highly deformed Great Valley Sequence, which include massive beds of sandstone interfingering with siltstone and shale.

The San Francisco Bay Area is a seismically active region, which is situated on a plate boundary marked by the San Andreas Fault System. Several northwest trending active and potentially active faults are included with this fault system. Under the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act, Earthquake Fault Zones were established by the California Division of Mines and Geology along “active” faults, or faults along which surface rupture occurred in Holocene time (the last 11,000 years). In the Bay area, these faults include the San Andreas, Hayward, Rodgers Creek-Healdsburg, Concord-Green Valley, Greenville-Marsh Creek, Seal Cove/San Gregorio and West Napa faults. Other smaller faults in the region classified as potentially active include the Southampton and Franklin faults.

Ground movement intensity during an earthquake can vary depending on the overall magnitude, distance to the fault, focus of earthquake energy, and type of geological material. Areas that are underlain by bedrock tend to experience less ground shaking than those underlain by unconsolidated sediments such as artificial fill. Earthquake ground shaking may have secondary effects on certain foundation materials, including liquefaction, seismically induced settlement, and lateral spreading.

Regulatory Background

Construction is regulated by the local City or County building codes that provide requirements for construction, grading, excavations, use of fill, and foundation work including type of materials, design, procedures, etc. which are intended to limit the probability of occurrence and the severity of consequences from geological hazards. Necessary permits, plan checks, and inspections are generally required.

The City or County General Plan includes the Seismic Safety Element. The Element serves primarily to identify seismic hazards and their location in order that they may be taken into account in the planning of future development. The Uniform Building Code is the principal mechanism for protection against and relief from the danger of earthquakes and related events.

In addition, the Seismic Hazard Zone Mapping Act (Public Resources Code §§2690 – 2699.6) was passed by the California legislature in 1990 following the Loma Prieta earthquake. The Act required that the California Division of Mines and Geology (DMG) develop maps that identify the areas of the state that require site specific investigation for earthquake-triggered landslides and/or potential liquefaction prior to permitting most urban developments. The act directs cities, counties and state agencies to use the maps in their land use planning and permitting processes.

Local governments are responsible for implementing the requirements of the Seismic Hazards Mapping Act. The maps and guidelines are tools for local governments to use in establishing their land use management policies and in developing ordinances and review procedures that will reduce losses from ground failure during future earthquakes.

Discussion of Impacts

VI a – e. No impacts on geology and soils are anticipated from the proposed rule amendments. No major construction activities are expected from the proposed rule amendments and no new structures would be required. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts on geology and soils are expected.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
VII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS. Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or involve handling hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on a site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Be located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, be within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, and result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Be located within the vicinity of a private airstrip and result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting

Petroleum refineries and chemical plants handle and process large quantities of flammable, hazardous, and acutely hazardous materials. Accidents involving these substances can result in worker or public exposure to fire, heat, blast from an explosion, or airborne exposure to hazardous substances.

The potential hazards associated with industrial activities are a function of the materials being processed, processing systems, and procedures used to operate and maintain the facility. The hazards that are likely to exist are identified by the physical and chemical properties of the materials being handled and their process conditions, including the following events.

- **Toxic gas clouds:** Toxic gas clouds are releases of volatile chemicals (e.g., anhydrous ammonia, chlorine, and hydrogen sulfide) that could form a cloud and migrate off-site, thus exposing individuals. “Worst-case” conditions tend to arise when very low wind speeds coincide with an accidental release, which can allow the chemicals to accumulate rather than disperse.
- **Torch fires (gas and liquefied gas releases), flash fires (liquefied gas releases), pool fires, and vapor cloud explosions (gas and liquefied gas releases):** The rupture of a storage tank containing a flammable gaseous material (like propane), without immediate ignition, can result in a vapor cloud explosion. The “worst-case” upset would be a release that produces a large aerosol cloud with flammable properties. If the flammable cloud does not ignite after dispersion, the cloud would simply dissipate. If the flammable cloud were to ignite during the release, a flash fire or vapor cloud explosion could occur. If the flammable cloud were to ignite immediately upon release, a torch fire would ensue.
- **Thermal Radiation:** Thermal radiation is the heat generated by a fire. Exposure to thermal radiation would result in burns, the severity of which would depend on the intensity of the fire, the duration of exposure, and the distance of an individual to the fire.
- **Explosion/Overpressure:** Process vessels containing flammable and/or explosive vapors and potential ignition sources are present at refineries and chemical plants. Explosions may occur if the flammable/explosive vapors came into contact with an ignition source. An explosion could cause impacts to individuals and structures in the area.

For all refineries and chemical plants, risks to the public are reduced if there is a buffer zone between industrial processes and residences or other sensitive land uses, or the prevailing wind blows away from residential areas and other sensitive land uses. The risks posed by refinery and chemical plant operations are unique and determined by a variety of factors.

Regulatory Background

There are many federal and state rules and regulations that refineries and chemical plants must comply with which serve to minimize the potential impacts associated with hazards at these facilities.

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations [29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1910], facilities which use, store, manufacture, handle, process, or move highly hazardous materials must prepare a fire prevention plan. In addition, 29 CFR Part 1910.119, Process Safety Management (PSM) of Highly Hazardous Chemicals, and Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations, General Industry Safety Order §5189, specify required prevention program elements to protect workers at facilities that handle toxic, flammable, reactive, or explosive materials. Prevention program elements are aimed at preventing or minimizing the consequences of catastrophic releases of the chemicals and include process hazard analyses, formal training programs for employees and contractors, investigation of equipment mechanical integrity, and an emergency response plan.

Section 112 (r) of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 [42 U.S.C. 7401 et. Seq.] and Article 2, Chapter 6.95 of the California Health and Safety Code require facilities that handle listed regulated substances to develop Risk Management Programs (RMPs) to prevent accidental releases of these substances, U.S. EPA regulations are set forth in 40 CFR Part 68. In California, the California Accidental Release Prevention (CalARP) Program regulation (CCR Title 19, Division 2, Chapter 4.5) was issued by the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES). RMPs consist of three main elements: a hazard assessment that includes off-site consequences analyses and a five-year accident history, a prevention program, and an emergency response program. Refineries are also required to comply with the U.S. EPA's Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA).

The refineries and most chemical plants that store materials are required to have a Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) Plan per the requirements of 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 112. The SPCC is designed to prevent spills from on-site facilities and includes requirements for secondary containment, provides emergency response procedures, establishes training requirements, and so forth.

The Hazardous Materials Transportation (HMT) Act is the federal legislation that regulates transportation of hazardous materials. The primary regulatory authorities are the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration, and the Federal Railroad Administration. The HMT Act requires that carriers report accidental releases of hazardous materials to the Department of Transportation at the earliest practical moment (49 CFR Subchapter C). The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) sets standards for trucks in California. The regulations are enforced by the California Highway Patrol.

California Assembly Bill 2185 requires local agencies to regulate the storage and handling of hazardous materials and requires development of a plan to mitigate the release of hazardous materials. Businesses that handle any of the specified hazardous materials must submit to government agencies (i.e., fire departments), an inventory of the hazardous materials, an emergency response plan, and an employee training program. The business plans must provide a description of the types of hazardous materials/waste on-site and the location of these materials. The information in the business plan can then be used in the event of an emergency to determine the appropriate response action, the need for public notification, and the need for evacuation.

Contra Costa County has adopted an industrial safety ordinance that addresses the human factors that lead to accidents. The ordinance requires stationary sources to develop a written human factors program that includes the following:

- Consideration of human factors in the process hazards analysis process;
- Consideration of human systems as causal factors in the incident investigation process for major accidents or releases or for incidents that could have led to a major accident or release;
- Training of employees in the human factors program;
- Operating procedures;
- Management of changes in staffing, staffing levels, or organization in operations or emergency response;
- Participation of employees and their representatives in the development of the written human factors program;
- Development of a program that includes issues such as staffing, shiftwork, and overtime; and
- Incorporation of the human factors program description in the facility safety plan.

Discussion of Impacts

VII a. The proposed rule amendments will not require or change the transportation, use, storage, or disposal of any hazardous material. The proposed amendments will enhance the current rule, which applies to PRDs that may serve equipment handling hazardous materials, but they will not alter the way those materials are transported, used, stored, or disposed of. By enhancing the current rule, the proposed amendments may actually reduce the hazards associated with exposure to released material. Therefore, no significant hazards to the public or the environment are expected.

VII b – c. The proposed rule amendments will not change the way affected facilities engage in operations that may involve hazardous materials (including the transportation, use, storage, or disposal of such materials). The proposed amendments will therefore not affect the likelihood of or risk from upset or accident conditions that may result in the release of hazardous materials into the environment. By enhancing the current rule, the proposed amendments may even reduce the likelihood or risk from such conditions. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts from accidental releases of hazardous materials into the environment are expected from the proposed amendments. The absence of any such significant impacts applies to all areas throughout the District, regardless of proximity to existing or proposed schools.

VII d. No impacts on hazardous material sites are anticipated from the proposed rule amendments that would apply to existing refinery operations. Some of the refineries and chemical plants may be located on the hazardous materials sites list pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. However, the proposed

rule amendments would have no effect on hazardous materials nor would the amendment create a significant hazard to the public or environment. The proposed rule amendments neither require, nor are likely to result in, activities that would affect hazardous materials or existing site contamination. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts on hazards are expected.

VII e – f. No impacts on airports or airport land use plans are anticipated from the proposed rule amendments. The proposed rule amendments neither require nor are likely to result in activities that could affect anything outside of the refinery boundaries. No major construction activities are expected from the proposed rule amendments. Therefore, no safety hazards are expected as a result of proximity to airports.

VII g. No impacts on emergency response plans are anticipated from the proposed rule amendments. The proposed rule amendments neither require, nor are likely to result in, activities that would impact the emergency response plan. No major construction activities are expected from the proposed rule amendments. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts on emergency response plans is expected.

VII h. No increase in hazards related to wildfires are anticipated from the proposed rule amendments that would apply to existing refinery and chemical plant operations. No major construction activities are expected from the proposed rule amendments and no activities would occur outside the confines of the existing refineries or chemical plants. Vegetation surrounding the operating portions of industrial facilities is has generally been removed to reduce the potential fire hazards. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts on fire hazards are expected.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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VIII. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY.

Would the project:

- | | | | | | |
|----|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) | Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) | Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g. the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level that would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

c)	Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation onsite or offsite?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d)	Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding onsite or offsite?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e)	Create or contribute runoff water that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f)	Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g)	Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area, as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h)	Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i)	Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
j)	Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The BAAQMD covers all of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Napa Counties and portions of southwestern Solano and southern Sonoma Counties. The area of coverage is vast (about 5,600 square miles) so that land uses and affected environment vary substantially throughout the area and include commercial, industrial, residential, agricultural, and open space uses.

The refineries and chemical plants are located within the San Francisco Bay Area Hydrologic Basin. The primary regional groundwater water-bearing formations include the recent and Pleistocene (up to two million years old) alluvial deposits and the Pleistocene Huichica formation. Salinity within the unconfined alluvium appears to increase with depth to at least 300 feet. Water of the Huichica formation tends to be soft and relatively high in bicarbonate, although usable for domestic and irrigation needs.

Regulatory Background

The Federal Clean Water Act of 1972 primarily establishes regulations for pollutant discharges into surface waters in order to protect and maintain the quality and integrity of the nation's waters. This Act requires industries that discharge wastewater to municipal sewer systems to meet pretreatment standards. The regulations authorize the U.S. EPA to set the pretreatment standards. The regulations also allow the local treatment plants to set more stringent wastewater discharge requirements, if necessary, to meet local conditions.

The 1987 amendments to the Clean Water Act enabled the U.S. EPA to regulate, under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program, discharges from industries and large municipal sewer systems. The U.S. EPA set initial permit application requirements in 1990. The State of California, through the State Water Resources Control Board, has authority to issue NPDES permits, which meet U.S. EPA requirements, to specified industries.

The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Act is California's primary water quality control law. It implements the state's responsibilities under the Federal Clean Water Act but also establishes state wastewater discharge requirements. The RWQCB administers the state requirements as specified under the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Act, which include storm water discharge permits. The water quality in the Bay Area is under the jurisdiction of the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board.

In response to the Federal Act, the State Water Resources Control Board prepared two state-wide plans in 1991 and 1995 that address storm water runoff: the California Inland Surface Waters Plan and the California Enclosed Bays and Estuaries Plan. Enclosed bays are indentations along the coast that enclose an area of oceanic water within distinct headlands or harbor works. San Francisco Bay, and its constituents parts, including Carquinez Strait and Suisun Bay, fall under this category.

Discussion of Impacts

VIII a – j. No significant adverse impacts on hydrology/water quality resources are anticipated from the proposed rule amendments. The refineries and chemical plants affected by the proposed rule amendments are required to treat and monitor wastewater discharges from their facilities, and the proposed amendments would not affect those requirements. The proposed amendments are not expected to require new construction, create additional water runoff, place any additional structures within 100-year flood zones or other areas subject to flooding, or contribute to inundation by seiche, tsunami or mudflow. No major construction activities are expected from the proposed rule amendments and no new structures are required. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts on hydrology/water quality are expected.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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IX. LAND USE AND PLANNING. Would the project:

- | | | | | | |
|----|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) | Physically divide an established community? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) | Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to a general plan, specific plan, local coastal program or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) | Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Setting

The BAAQMD covers all of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Napa Counties and portions of southwestern Solano and southern Sonoma Counties. The area of coverage is vast (about 5,600 square miles) so that land uses vary greatly and include commercial, industrial, residential, agricultural, and open space uses.

The refineries and chemical plants affected by the proposed rule amendments are located in industrial areas and are generally adjacent to industrial and commercial land uses.

Regulatory Background

Land uses are generally protected and regulated by the City and/or County General Plans through land use and zoning requirements.

Discussion of Impacts

IX a-c. PRDs are located within the confines of existing refineries within heavy industrial areas. The proposed rule amendments neither require, nor are likely to result in, any significant construction inside or outside of those facilities. Therefore, no land use impacts are expected.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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X. MINERAL RESOURCES. Would the project:

- | | | | | | |
|----|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) | Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|----|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|

residents of the state?

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|

Setting

The BAAQMD covers all of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Napa Counties and portions of southwestern Solano and southern Sonoma Counties. The area of coverage is vast (about 5,600 square miles) so that land uses and the affected environment vary greatly throughout the area. The facilities affected by the proposed rule amendments are generally located in industrial areas.

Regulatory Background

Mineral resources are generally protected and regulated by the City and/or County General Plans through land use and zoning requirements.

Discussion of Impacts

X a-b. PRDs are located within the confines of refineries and chemical plants within industrial areas. The proposed rule amendments neither require, nor are likely to result in, any significant construction inside or outside of those facilities. The proposed rule amendments are not associated with any action that would result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state, or of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan. Therefore, no impacts on mineral resources are expected.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XI. NOISE. Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Expose persons to or generate noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Expose persons to or generate of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Result in a substantial permanent increase in | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?

- | | | | | | |
|----|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| d) | Result in a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| e) | Be located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport and expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| f) | Be located within the vicinity of a private airstrip and expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Setting

The BAAQMD covers all of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Napa Counties and portions of southwestern Solano and southern Sonoma Counties. The area of coverage is vast (about 5,600 square miles) so that land uses and the affected environment vary greatly throughout the area. The refineries and chemical plants affected by the proposed rule amendments are located in industrial areas and are typically surrounded by other commercial and industrial facilities.

Regulatory Background

Noise issues related to construction and operation activities are addressed in local General Plan policies and local noise ordinance standards. The General Plan and noise ordinances generally establish allowable noise limits within different land uses including residential areas, other sensitive use areas (e.g., schools, churches, hospitals, and libraries), commercial areas, and industrial areas.

Discussion of Impacts

XI a-f. PRDs are located within the confines of existing refineries and chemical plants within industrial areas. PRDs can be noise sources when they release. The proposed amendments to the rule will not require the installation of PRDs or generate any additional noise. The proposed amendments may help reduce the number of releases from PRDs, which would also mean a reduction in the noise related to PRD releases. No new equipment that would generate any significant noise is required as part of the proposed rule amendments. Therefore, no noise impacts are expected.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XII. POPULATION AND HOUSING. Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area either directly (e.g., by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (e.g. through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace a substantial number of existing housing units, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Displace a substantial number of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The BAAQMD covers all of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Napa Counties and portions of southwestern Solano and southern Sonoma Counties. The area of coverage is vast (about 5,600 square miles) so that land uses and the affected environment vary greatly throughout the area. The refineries and chemical plants affected by the proposed rule amendments are located in industrial areas.

Regulatory Background

Population and housing growth and resources are generally protected and regulated by the City and/or County General Plans through land use and zoning requirements.

Discussion of Impacts

XII a. PRDs are located within the confines of refineries and chemical plants within industrial areas. The proposed rule amendments neither require nor are likely to result in, any significant construction inside or outside of those facilities. No additional workers will be required at the refineries; therefore, no increase in population is expected.

XII b-c. PRDs are located within the confines of existing refineries and chemical plants within industrial areas. No housing would be impacted or removed by the proposed rule amendments and no displacement of housing would occur. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts on population/housing are expected.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XIII. PUBLIC SERVICES. Would the project:

- a. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities or a need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the following public services:

Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The BAAQMD covers all of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Napa Counties and portions of southwestern Solano and southern Sonoma Counties. The area of coverage is vast (about 5,600 square miles) so that land uses and the affected environment vary greatly throughout the area. The facilities affected by the proposed rule amendments are located in industrial areas.

Given the large area covered by the BAAQMD, public services are provided by a wide variety of local agencies. Fire protection and police protection/law enforcement services within the BAAQMD are provided by various districts, organizations, and agencies. There are several school districts, private schools, and park departments within the BAAQMD. Public facilities within the BAAQMD are managed by different county, city, and special-use districts.

Regulatory Background

City and/or County General Plans usually contain goals and policies to assure adequate public services are maintained within the local jurisdiction.

Discussion of Impacts

XIII a. PRDs are located within the confines of refineries and chemical plants within industrial areas. The proposed rule amendments do not require new public services. A reduction in the releases from PRDs would

result in a reduction in hazards associated with those releases. No impacts on the need for fire or police protection are expected. The proposed rule amendments are not expected to require additional workers at the refinery or result in population growth so no impacts on schools or parks are expected. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts on public services are expected.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XIV. RECREATION. Would the project:

- | | | | | | |
|----|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) | Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated.? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) | Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Setting

The BAAQMD covers all of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Napa Counties and portions of southwestern Solano and southern Sonoma Counties. The area of coverage is vast (about 5,600 square miles) so that there are numerous areas for recreational activities. The facilities affected by the proposed rule amendments are located in industrial areas. Public recreational land uses are not located within the operating areas of these facilities.

Regulatory Background

Recreational areas are generally protected and regulated by the City and/or County General Plans at the local level through land use and zoning requirements. Some parks and recreation areas are designated and protected by state and federal regulations.

Discussion of Impacts

XIV a-b. PRDs are located within the confines of existing refineries and chemical plants within industrial areas. The proposed rule amendments neither require, nor are likely to result in, any significant construction inside or outside of those facilities. No additional workers will be required at the refineries, no increase in population is expected and, therefore, no significant adverse impacts on recreation are expected.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XV. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC. Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Cause an increase in traffic that is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in the number of vehicle trips, the volume-to-capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Cause, either individually or cumulatively, exceedance of a level-of-service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Substantially increase hazards because of a design feature (e.g. sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g. farm equipment)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Result in inadequate emergency access? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| f) Result in inadequate parking capacity? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g. bus turnouts, bicycle racks)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Setting

The BAAQMD covers all of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Napa Counties and portions of southwestern Solano and southern Sonoma Counties. The area of coverage is vast (about 5,600 square miles). Transportation systems located within the Bay Area include railroads, airports, waterways, and highways. The transportation infrastructure for vehicles and trucks in the Bay Area ranges from single lane roadways to multilane interstate highways. The refineries and chemical plants affected by the proposed rule amendments are located in the industrial portions of Contra Costa and Solano Counties and are accessed via highways and local roadway systems.

Regulatory Background

Transportation planning is usually conducted at the county level.

Discussion of Impacts

XV a-b. PRDs are located within the confines of existing refineries and chemical plants within industrial areas. The proposed rule amendments are not expected to require any significant construction activities. No significant transport of additional materials or workers will be required. No changes to traffic patterns or levels of service at local intersections are expected. Therefore, no adverse significant impacts to traffic are expected.

XV c. The proposed rule amendments include minor modifications to the operation of existing facilities. The project will not involve the delivery of any significant materials via air so no increase and no adverse impacts in air traffic are expected.

XV d - e. The proposed rule amendments are not expected to increase traffic hazards or create incompatible uses at or adjacent to the site. Emergency access is provided at the refinery and most chemical plant sites, will continue to be maintained at the refinery and chemical plant sites, and will not be impacted by the proposed rule amendments.

XV f. No significant construction activities are expected, so no parking is required for construction workers. No increase in permanent workers is expected. Therefore, the proposed rule amendments will not result in significant adverse impacts on parking.

XV g. The proposed rule amendments are not expected to conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation modes (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks).

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than- Significant Impact	No Impact
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XVI. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS.

Would the project:

a)	Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b)	Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c)	Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d)	Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or would new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e)	Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f)	Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g)	Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The BAAQMD covers all of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Napa Counties and portions of southwestern Solano and southern Sonoma Counties. The area of coverage is vast (about 5,600 square miles) so that land uses and the affected environment vary greatly throughout the area. The refineries and chemical plant affected by the proposed rule amendments are located in industrial areas.

Given the large area covered by the BAAQMD, public utilities are provided by a wide variety of local agencies. The affected facilities have wastewater and storm water treatment facilities and discharge treated wastewater under the requirements of NPDES permits.

Water is supplied to the refineries and chemical plants by several water purveyors in the Bay Area. Solid waste is handled through a variety of municipalities, through recycling activities and at disposal sites.

There are no hazardous waste disposal sites within the jurisdiction of the BAAQMD. Hazardous waste generated at area facilities, which is not reused on-site, or recycled off-site, is disposed of at a licensed in-state hazardous waste disposal facility. Two such facilities are the Chemical Waste Management Inc. (CWMI) Kettleman Hills facility in King's County, and the Safety-Kleen facility in Buttonwillow (Kern County). Hazardous waste can also be transported to permitted facilities outside of California. The nearest out-of-state landfills are U.S. Ecology, Inc., located in Beatty, Nevada; USPCI, Inc., in Murray, Utah; and Envirosafe Services of Idaho, Inc., in Mountain Home, Idaho. Incineration is provided at the following out-of-state facilities: Aptus, located in Aragonite, Utah and Coffeyville, Kansas; Rollins Environmental Services, Inc., located in Deer Park, Texas and Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Chemical Waste Management, Inc., in Port Arthur, Texas; and Waste Research & Reclamation Co., Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

Regulatory Background

City and/or County General Plans usually contain goals and policies to assure adequate utilities and service systems are maintain within the local jurisdiction.

Discussion of Impacts

XVI a – g. No significant adverse impacts on utilities and service systems are anticipated from the proposed rule amendments. The proposed rule amendments are not expected to generate or affect wastewater or solid or hazardous waste, will not affect storm water, or storm water drainage, and will not require water, or affect water supplies. PRDs that serve equipment that handles material that could contaminate soil or water could be a pathway for such material to reach the environment in the event of an upset and release. But the proposed amendments would not alter the way that facilities operate the equipment handling such materials, and so there would be no increase in the potential for such releases. Indeed, by enhancing the current rule, the proposed amendments may even lessen the potential. No increases in demand for public utilities are expected as a result of the proposed rule amendments, therefore, no adverse significant impacts are expected.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE.				
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Does the project have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion of Impacts

XVII a. The proposed rule amendments do not have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory, as discussed in the previous sections of the CEQA checklist. The proposed rule amendments will enhance the District's current PRD rule, which is designed reduce emission from refineries and chemical plants, thus providing a beneficial air quality impact and improvement in air quality. No significant adverse impacts are expected from the proposed amendments.

XVII b. The proposed amendments are expected to enhance the District's ability to enforce the Regulation 8, Rule 28. The proposal also clarifies the rule so that it can be more easily understood and enforced. By improving the rule, the proposed amendments will help reduce emissions from refineries and chemical plants, thus providing a beneficial air quality impact and improvement in air quality. The proposed rule amendments are part of a long-term plan to bring the Bay Area into compliance with the state ambient air quality standards for ozone and to maintain compliance with the federal standards. The proposed rule

amendments do not have adverse environmental impacts that are limited individually, but cumulatively considerable when considered in conjunction with other regulatory control projects. The proposed rule amendments do not have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly. No significant adverse impacts are expected.

XVII c. The proposed rule amendments are expected to result in emission reductions from refineries and chemical plants, thus providing a beneficial air quality impact and improvement in air quality. The proposed rule amendments are part of a long-term plan to bring the Bay Area into compliance with the state ambient air quality standards for ozone and to maintain compliance with the federal standards, thus reducing the potential health impacts due to ozone exposure. The proposed rule amendments will not have significant adverse effects (either directly or indirectly) to human beings.

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Chapter 4**References**

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